



# Text Complexity Analysis of *Cross* (title) By David T. Greenberg (author) Recommended Complexity Band: 2-3

## Text Description

Briefly describe the text: Having moved from the city to a tropical island to escape horrifying creatures, a homeowner encounters a horde of friendly crocodiles.

## Qualitative Measures

**Meaning/Purpose:** (Briefly explain the levels of meaning (Literary Text) or purpose (Informational text.)

One level/layer of meaning, theme is obvious and revealed early in the text.

**Text Structure:** (Briefly describe the structure, organization, and other features of the text.)

Simple with no shifts in point of view or perspective; strictly chronological in order of events; illustrations are used to directly support and assist in interpreting the written text.

**Language Features:** (Briefly describe the conventions and clarity of the language used in the text, including the complexity of the vocabulary and sentence structures.)

Sentences are mainly simple; vocabulary words are a little difficult for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade but should be fine for a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader – see list of potential challenges.

**Knowledge Demands:** (Briefly describe the knowledge demands the text requires of students.)

Students should already have basic background knowledge; no references or allusions to other text; explores a single theme but experiences are not every day for most but not meant to be – experiences are used to enhance the humor of the text.

## Quantitative Measure

**Complexity Band Level** (provide range):  
Grade band: 2-3

**Lexile or Other Quantitative Measure of the Text:**  
ATOS: 4.5  
Lexile: 701

## Considerations for Reader and Task

Below are factors to consider with respect to the reader and task (See attached guiding questions to assist each teacher in filling out this section for his or her own class):

### Potential Challenges this Text Poses:

Some made up words but due to the rhyming factor students should be able to pronounce the words; some vocabulary: seismic, deplore, veranda, paranoid, thrashing, bombard, instinctual

### Major Instructional Areas of Focus (3-4 CCS Standards) for this Text:

### Differentiation/Supports for Students:

Basic humorous story; might want to explore further by reading an informational texts on crocodiles.

## Recommended Placement

**Briefly explain the recommended placement of the text in a particular grade band.**

Due to some vocabulary and the reliance of the illustrations to interpret the text I would leave it at the 2-3 grade band.